

Jane Roberts
On the Disappearance of Old English

Illustrations

1. London, British Library, Royal 7 C. xii, 64r (formerly 60). Ælfric, *Dominica in media quadragesima*
2. London, British Library, Cotton Titus A. iv, 32r. Rule of St Benedict (*Regula sancti Benedicti*), with Æthelwold's translation, s. xi med.
3. London, British Library, Cotton Tiberius A. iii, 60v. End of office prayer; opening of Ælfric's *Colloquy*, s. xi med.
4. London, British Library, Cotton Vespasian D. xii, 11r. Hymns accompanied by glossed explication, s. xi med.
5. Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodley 441, 3r. Gospels, Matthew 2: 11-19
6. London, British Library, Royal 1 A. xiv, 35r. Gospels, Matthew, 2: 12-19
7. Oxford, Bodleian Library, Hatton 38, 80r. Gospels, Matthew 2: 12-18

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The manuscripts used for figures 1-4 and 6 have been fully digitized and are available from the British Library website as follows:

1. BL Royal 7 C. xii
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=royal_ms_7_c_xii_f004r
2. London BL Cotton Titus A. iv
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=cotton_ms_titus_a_iv_fs001r
3. BL, Cotton Tiberius A.iii
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=cotton_ms_tiberius_a_iii_f002r
Folio 60v is also available at
<http://www.bl.uk/learning/timeline/large126530.html>
4. BL, Cotton Vespasian, D. xii
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=cotton_ms_vespasian_d_xii_fs001r
6. London, BL, Royal 1A.xiv
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=royal_ms_1_a_xiv_fs001r

nardde. 7 neude þa þion nan gefelic 7 ge. aþdan þe pite
 com 7 habec ge optade. 7 hi na gefelic ad ge on pneh.
 his lōruning emhtam. 7 hi siddan eallum epistum
 polce. **C**ir hpa fmead hpa se moy ses pasie. þon fecgepe
 þ he pæst fūm an se de god sponæ to gelomlice. 7 he pæs
 hse to ga. þa þ polces þ god ge læode mid mclum
 pundrum of syp talande. 7 hisdon of sīda pīdan
 sē. mid pum pōtam. 7 siddan god hi pēdde. pēoptra
 pūpa mid hī fūlicum mīce. 7 þæt polces pæs sīx
 hund þustro pī gūna manna 7 pī hund manna 7 pī tū
 ælce dæg him com to heo pōlic mīce. ne hine sīdon.
 nāne eol oðon. ne hī pā pūc nāf pā pī sīd. þannan
 þam pēoptra gūm. Ðast to god æ. þā in polce
 7 hī þone moy sī. appūtan þā in polce pī ælice bec.
 7 he pæs þa mid gode. 7 sī æ þa pī bec. bē godes dīht.
 þ god ge pōtra hī pōnal 7 eopdan. 7 alle gefceapra.
 7 pūpa eac ond hī gestemisse. þ nan man ne scolde
 bugan tonanum dī pūlgīde. ac scolde gehpa hine
 ge biddan to gode anum. sēde anastōd god. nān man
 ne scolde nān man godes naman tonan pē. 7 dēl nēsse.
 7 scolde gehpa pēol fīan þone sunnan dæg. mid an
 pī pōnī sī. and scolde appī pī dīan hī pæs þī. 7 hī
 mod þī. 7 sēde pī pī gōdde gūn ad pēd þī. 7 mod þī
 he bīd deades fēylōg; he pæd eac ne hān dū un
 pū helice. Ne of sī hī dū man. ne scaldū ne bōdū

Doer pæcu
 pællæon ond
 oðre bec. 7
 pōpūtan on
 sīpe pīlāpōh
 pī pīnce g
 ond sīpe bec

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Figure 1

gradibus ascensit. monachus mox
 ad caritatem dei puenit. illam
 que pfecta foras mittit timore;
 per quam uniuersa. que prius
 non sine formidine obseruabat.
 absque ullo labore uelut natu-
 raliter ex consuetudine incipit
 custodire. Non iam timore gehen-
 ne. sed amore xpi & consuetudine
 ipsa bona. & delectatione ur-
 titum. que dñs iam in oparia
 sua mundū auarit & peccatis
 spū scō dignabitur demonstrare.
S et pfecta scēpæ eadmod nēsse
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 17. Gypse munuc. on hī heopūtan
 eapmod byþ 7 nā þan ac eac pīlce
 utane mid hī lichaman eapmod
 nēsse eallum þam þe him on locia d.
 sīmlē gebūcne. þæt sī æ þe p
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 geonpēdne. ge on gebed hūse.
 ge in nān myn sēpē. ge on pēop
 aūde. ge on pāpē. ge on ælce pē
 scope. 7 sīpa hpa sīpa hēsi. sīc tēde.
 standende. oþpe gāngende. on
 hūgendum heafde sīmlē hī
 25
 gēhī þa ad unē on eopþan berette.
 þūne sīl pē on ælcne tīman
 fēylōgne pōpū sī sīnum talige

Figure 2

diabolo sine inimicis meis uisibilibus tunc dicit. Sed tu potius
 bone xpe in misericordia tua. & non in furore corripe me.
 Et ubi cumq; obtempero a te. reuoca me ad te. Atq; reuocati
 pacem pietate semp custodi ad gloria nominis tui. qd sic
 benedicti in secula. **A M E N.**

Nos pueri rogamus te magister ut doceas nos loqui laudat
 recte quia idiote sumus & corrupte loquimur. Quid uult
 loqui. quid amamus. quid loquamur nisi recta locutio sit
 & uult nonanilis aut turpis. Vult flagellari in discendo.
 Carni est nobis flagellari p doctrina quam nescire. Sed scim
 te mansueti esse & nolle inferre plagas nobis nisi cogaris
 a nobis. In terris te quid mihi loqueris. quid habes operi
 presul sum monachu & psallam omni die septe sinaxel cu tuorib.
 & occupatus sum lectionibus & cantu. sed tamen uelle ineri
 discere sermocinari launa lingua. Quid sciunt isti tui loci.
 Alii sunt auciores. alii opitones. quida bubulci. quida etia
 uenatores alii piscatores. alii aucupes. quida mercatores. qui
 dam sudores. quida salinatores. Quidam p flores loci. Quid
 dicit tu amcor. Quomodo exeres opus tui. Omni dne in mui
 laboro ecco diluculo minando boues ad campu & iungo eos
 ad aratu non est tam aspa biemps ut audea latere domi
 panore dni mei sed uncat bobus & confirmato uomere
 & culro. araro omni die debeo arare in tegru agru aut

Figure 3

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 Praesta pater.
 O potens rector & o uerax
 god hu begete metegast gepuyl dinta huz
 ds quitemperas uices rerum in
 quibuset aune metgen mid beophic nys 7 midoag
 seruis mane splendore & meri
 mid pypum ad pasc ligar
 diem ignibus. Extingue flamas
 teplita apyne herta de uenolicepa
 licium aufer calorem noxiu
 huphreo haele lichamana 7 sode
 confer salutem cor porum ueramq;
 sibbe heoptana
 pacem cor diu AD. HOXA YOMI.
 ERU OS TENAX uigor immotus
 in te pmanet lucis diurne tepora
 successib; de ter minans
 argre clarum uespere quo uita
 usqua decidat. Sed premum moras
 sacre pbenius in sca gla
 ra pater pius time
 eal apugod hnta hucayt paf arol hntend
 DEUS riam es tenax uigor
 duph puniende unafyrod onde sylpum
 permanens immotus in te

Figure 4

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7 mýrre. And hi afehton and swape on swer
nū. þ hi eft to herode nehýrþdon. achi
on oðerne pec on hýrnanice ferdon;
Pahiba ferdon þa æt ýrde drihtnes eng Apparuit angel
el iosepe ossefnū. 7 þur epeð. arif 7 mī dñi mīdñi iosef
þ cild. 7 hys modor. 7 fleoh on egypta land. dicens accipe m
7 beo þær oð þ ic ðe recge. 7 owerd yr. þ he rū æ matre ei
roder secd þ cild to forspillenre. hea
par þa 7 nā þ cild 7 hys modor on mht. 7 fer
de on egyptum. 7 pær þær oð heroder forð
rið. þ pære gepilled. þ ðe fram drihtne
gecpeðen pær þurh þone witegan. of
egyptū ic minne sunu geclýpode. þa
pær heroder wýþe gebolgen. forþam þe he
beræht pær fram þam tungel witegū. 7 he
arende þa 7 of sloh ealle þa cild þe on bech
leem wæron 7 on eallum hýre gemærū.
fram egyptū cilde. 7 binnan þa æft þære
tíde þe he ge ahrode fram þam tungel witegū;
7 Dapær gepilled þ gecpeðen pær þurh hiepe
miam þone witegan. Stefn pær on heh nýrre
gehýred. for 7 mýcel botornung. pachel weop hýre byrn.
7 heo nolde beon gefre
fneð. for þa behinæron. De funco aut herode; apparuit angel
odlice þa heroder pær forð faren. 7 wroðlice in ðom iosef
in egypto dicens.

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Figure 5

pendon. Apparuit angelus dñi in sompnis
ioseph dicens. accipe puerū 7 matrem eius.
Qua hō þa penden þa accepide drihtnes
angel iosefū on speornum. 7 þur epeð.
Apparuit enim þ cild. 7 hys modor 7 fleoh on egypto
land 7 beo þær oð þ ic þe recge. 7 owerd yr. þ he
roder secd þ cild to forspillenre. hea
par þa 7 nā þ cild 7 hys modor on mht. 7 ferde
on egyptum. 7 pær þær oð heroder forð
rið. þ pære gepilled. þ ðe fram drihtne
gecpeðen pær þurh þone witegan. of
egyptū ic minne sunu geclýpode. þa
pær heroder wýþe gebolgen. forþam þe he
beræht pær fram þam tungel witegū. 7 he
arende þa 7 of sloh ealle þa cild þe
on bechleem wæron 7 on eallum hýre
gemærū fram egyptū cilde 7 binnan
þa æft þære tíde þe he ge ahrode
fram þam tungel witegū. 7 Dapær
gepilled þ gecpeðen pær þurh hiepe
miam þone witegan. Stefn pær on
heh nýrre gehýred. for 7 mýcel
botornung. pachel weop hýre
byrn. 7 heo nolde beon gefre
fneð. for þa behinæron. De funco
aut herode; apparuit angelus
dñi in sompnis ioseph
dicens. accipe puerū 7 matrem
eius. Quā hō þa penden þa
accepide drihtnes angel iosefū
on speornum. 7 þur epeð. Appa
ruit enim þ cild. 7 hys modor 7
fleoh on egypto land 7 beo þær
oð þ ic þe recge. 7 owerd yr. þ
he roder secd þ cild to forspil
lenre. hea par þa 7 nā þ cild 7
hys modor on mht. 7 ferde on
egyptum. 7 pær þær oð heroder
forð rið. þ pære gepilled. þ ðe
fram drihtne gecpeðen pær þurh
þone witegan. of egyptū ic min
ne sunu geclýpode. þa pær herod
er wýþe gebolgen. forþam þe he
beræht pær fram þam tungel wite
gū. 7 he arende þa 7 of sloh eal
le þa cild þe on bechleem wæron
7 on eallum hýre gemærū fram
egyptū cilde 7 binnan þa æft þære
tíde þe he ge ahrode fram þam
tungel witegū. 7 Dapær gepilled
þ gecpeðen pær þurh hiepe miam
þone witegan. Stefn pær on heh
nýrre gehýred. for 7 mýcel botor
nung. pachel weop hýre byrn. 7
heo nolde beon gefrefneð. for þa
behinæron. De funco aut herode;
apparuit angelus dñi in sompnis
ioseph dicens.

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Figure 6

to herode ne hys wifden. ac hyo on oþerne wez
on hwe weche wezden.

Apparuit angelus dñi in sompnis ioseph dicit.
accipe puerum & matrem eius.

A hyo þa wezden þa a wepe omlitnes en
gel iosepe on swerne. 7 þus cwæð. Aris 7
nym þæt chilt. 7 hys moden 7 fleoz on egypte
te land 7 beo þær oð þæt ic þe sægge. To þas
is þæt herodes seð þæt chilt to wezspillene.
He aras þa 7 nam þæt chilt 7 hys moden o-
mlit 7 wezde in to egypte. 7 þas þær oðde herod-
es wez seð. þæt wezde se seð þæt þe fram
omlitnes se cweðen þas. þus þa wezden. O-
gypte ic minne sunne se cweðe. Ða þas he-
rodes seð se bolgen þær þam þe he be secht
þas fram þam tungelwezden. 7 he asende þa 7
of sloh calle þa chilt þe on bechleam wezden. 7
on calle hwe se wezden fram cwezden elde
7 binman þan aron þane wezde þe he se arde
fram þam tungelwezden. Ða þas se wille þe se
cweðen þas þus þe wezden þam wezden. Se wezde
þas on heabryse se hys. þas 7 michel þe wezden
þung. þæt þe wezden hwe bearn. 7 hwe nolde be
on se wezden. þær þam þe hys nam.

Retunco autem herode ecce apparuit angls

Figure 7